

# Nepal : Earthquake Update

Situation Report No. 5  
27 September 2011



*This report is produced by the OCHA Humanitarian Support Unit, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator's Office in collaboration with humanitarian partners.*

## I. Situation Overview

An earthquake measuring 6.9 on the Richter Scale affected 15 eastern districts of Nepal, as well as the capital of Kathmandu in the Central Region, at around 6:25 pm Nepal time on 18 September 2011. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) and the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) continues to coordinate the response to the earthquake. Latest figures released on 26 September by the NEOC, indicate that the number of fatalities remains at 6 persons, 27 people are severely injured and 132 persons have minor injuries. 3344 families are reportedly displaced (the exact number of individuals displaced is yet to be finalised as some districts are only reporting number of families). 3917 houses/buildings are completely destroyed and 5966 partially damaged. 111 schools are completely destroyed, and 387 are partially damaged. Similarly, 26 health facilities are completely destroyed and 38 are partially damaged. 63 Government buildings such as VDC offices, community buildings, electricity stations are reported to be destroyed with a further 204 buildings partially damaged. There are still difficulties in accessing some remote areas and reports and updates continue to be received at the NEOC from previously inaccessible areas.

The affected districts included 15 districts in the eastern region, three districts in the Kathmandu valley and the remainder in central and western Nepal (see attached map for detail). The tremor was felt across 26 districts of Nepal.

## II. The Government Response - Including Military

The Central Natural Disaster Relief Committee (CNDRC) meeting held on Sunday, 25 September 2011 has agreed to identify the needs of shelter and food for the displaced and provide 7kg rice per head. The meeting also agreed to provide kitchen utensils and tarpaulins if needed. Free medical services will be provided to the all injured people by the GoN health services. NPR 100,000 will be provided to families of the deceased. NPR 5,000 was provided to displaced families whose house was destroyed by the district teams during the assessments for immediate relief. It was further decided to provide NPR 5,000 from the central level as well. CNDRC has agreed to provide an additional NPR 15,000 per family depending on their situation. With this there will be a total cash support of NPR 25,000 to families whose house has been destroyed and NPR 125,000 whose family member has died. Rehabilitation and reconstruction work will be conducted through the Ministry of Physical Planning and Works. GoN has already distributed NPR 9,939,700 (equivalent to US\$ 132,529) to 3158 families from its Central Level Fund. Estimated losses and damages are reported, as of 26 September, as NPR 74,997,930 (US\$ 999,972). There was no request made to the international agencies for any humanitarian support. However, the CNDRC meeting discussed that international agencies should support the rehabilitation/reconstruction of schools and health facilities through MoPPW and relevant GoN counterparts.

The NEOC is receiving information from the respective DDRCs (mainly from security forces and other local agencies). The DDRCs are in contact with all affected VDCs (police posts, Ilaka offices and others) to obtain detailed information. MOHA, jointly with other Ministries, is preparing a recovery programme which is now under discussion. The recovery programme is for the reconstruction of public infrastructures such as schools, health facilities, VDC buildings, jails etc, and is being discussed with CNDRC, Ministry of Finance, Department of Building Construction and other relevant Government ministries and departments.

## III. Cluster Updates



### HEALTH

The WHO led Health Cluster is in close contact with Ministry and Health and Population (MOHP) regarding health cluster needs assessment. All health institutions have been instructed by the Government to provide free health services to people affected by the earthquake according to the instruction of the CNDRC.

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MOHP and Regional Health Directorate, eastern region have already deployed assessment teams and the reports are awaited.

According to the latest report of MoHA, 26 health facilities are completely destroyed and 38 are partially damaged.



## EDUCATION

In 13 districts, schools are reported to be either completely destroyed or partially damaged. 128 Schools in nine districts need urgent action as they are fully destroyed, and 547 schools are partially damaged so further assessment of these schools is needed.

A Regional Education Cluster Coordination (RECC) meeting was held in Biratnagar and decided that RECC will organize a meeting for the final assessment report presentation and response plan development on 14 Oct 2011 in UNICEF ERZO, Biratnagar from 8:30 - 16:00 and action will be taken to open schools after Tihar vacation.

Education cluster has already started rapid assessments in eight districts since 22 September and is expected to complete these by 27 September.

UNICEF, Save the Children, Plan Nepal, LWF, UMN and Department of Education and UNFCO Biratnagar are engaged in the assessment work in different districts.



## WATER SANITATION AND HYGIENE

UNICEF WASH Cluster is doing the assessment and the assessment report is expected to be completed by the end of September.



## PROTECTION

Protection cluster convened a meeting on 22 September about the ongoing assessment and response to the recent earthquake in different districts of the eastern region. Child protection sub cluster, led by UNICEF has been conducting a rapid assessment of protection concerns in Dhankuta, Illam, Jhapa and Sankhuwasabha districts. Tran-cultural Psychosocial Organization (TPO) Nepal, co-chair of psychosocial support working group under protection cluster, has updated the list of psychosocial service providers in different districts. The district protection cluster lead i.e. Women Development Officers (WDOs) or other service providers, can contact the psychosocial counselors in case there is an identified need of psychosocial counseling in the affected district.

On 26 September, OHCHR team from Taplejung informed that the DDRC has started the distribution of the relief assistance to the affected families. The team found out from the CDO and human rights defenders that it is still a challenge to reach remote VDCs for collecting information. The next cluster meeting will be held on Thursday, 29 September 2011.



## SHELTER AND NON-FOOD RELIEF ITEMS

NRCS National Headquarters has activated its Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) and is in close contact with the district chapter to accelerate the response. NRCS HQs has put its response teams on alert throughout the country. Volunteers from district chapters have been mobilized to assess the situation. Similarly, NRCS HQs have deployed assessment teams to assess the situation in Taplejung, Illam, Sankhuwasava, Khotang and Bhojpur Districts.

NRCS regional warehouse has delivered 200 sets of NFRI to Illam (100 tarpaulins), 100 sets to Pancthar and 200 Sets to Taplejung Districts.



## NUTRITION

A nutrition cluster meeting was held on 22 September to discuss the earthquake response. Meetings with the Regional Health Director of eastern region and nutrition focal point in 12 districts were held on 26 September in Biratnagar.



## LOGISTICS

Logistic cluster has updated agency stockpile status. The new update includes information from WFP, UNICEF and LWF and the rest of the stock pile information remains as is.



The Food Security cluster held a meeting on 27th September to discuss its collective response, and awaits the outcome of the Government's assessments and the details of the proposed recovery packages.

#### IV. The Role of Humanitarian Agencies and Partners

The international humanitarian community has mobilized disaster assessment teams across the affected districts in the eastern region. The teams are primarily comprised of different clusters: Education, WASH, and Child Protection. Similarly, NRCS with the support of the IFRC, has also deployed its assessment teams in the districts.

At national level, all the clusters are coordinating with their respective government counterparts and are on standby should there be a need.

UNDP is organizing an Early Recovery meeting with cluster partners on 28 September. The meeting will discuss possible support and coordination for the rehabilitation and reconstruction programme of the GoN.

#### V. Coordination

In support of the Government's relief efforts, partners including UN agencies, NGOs and Red Cross Movement are conducting assessments from their bases in Biratnagar in the eastern region, and inter-cluster coordination meetings have been held by the humanitarian community both at the national and regional levels. The Government led District Disaster Relief Committees are leading the response efforts at the district level. Several clusters such as Education, Health, Nutrition and Protection held cluster meetings at the national level.

DDRC coordination meetings are being held in the affected districts to ensure an effective relief operation at the district level and stakeholders meetings and media briefings are being held regularly by MoHA.

#### VI. Needs and Gaps

Information received from the districts, indicate that shelter and NFRI support is needed for the displaced and affected families. However, a detailed plan will only be developed once the collated results of the Government's assessments is finalised by the NEOC.

Accessing the remote VDCs of Yamfudin, Lelep and Olangchungola in Taplejung has proved difficult as bad weather conditions prevented the use of helicopter assets by the GoN on 25 September. Ground forces from APF and Nepal Police have been mobilized to reach this area. MoHA is following up on this issue.

#### VII. Need for International Assistance

There is no formal request from the Government for external humanitarian support at the national or regional and district levels. However, the CNDRC meeting held on 25 September said that international support could be used for reconstruction and rehabilitation of Health and Education structures.

#### VIII. Contact

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For more information, please visit UN Nepal Information Platform <http://www.un.org.np>

# NEPAL -Earthquake Affected Districts

(as of 18 - 26 September 2011, 17:00 hrs)

## Effects of Earthquake

Total District Affected: 26  
Deaths: 6  
Injured: 159  
Displaced Family: 3344  
Displaced Persons: 2986  
School Damaged/Destroyed: 498  
Health Post Damaged/Destroyed: 64  
Houses Damaged/Destroyed: 10677

## Casualties Distribution by Region

